Biography

John McCullah, CPESC #311, Geomorphologist, Community College Instructor, CA Contractor

John McCullah has been working in the fields of erosion and sediment control, watershed restoration, biotechnical steep-slope stabilization, and river and stream stabilization for 30 years. After earning a degree in Watershed Geology from Humboldt State University in 1984, John became a Certified Professional in Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC #311) in 1986.

As a licensed CA Contractor since 1988, John has experience designing and building projects. He is currently “on call” for design and planning with 3 Districts within Caltrans. John published the first BMP Manual for Shasta County and Redding in 1991. He served on the Caltrans Stormwater Taskforce from 1996 to 2006 where he helped develop Highway Department BMPs, protocol, and BMP Training, which was implemented statewide for over 8 years. The hands-on workshop on Thursday is based on this work.

Salix Applied Earthcare won the 2005 Transportation Research Board project for Federal Highways, which then published NCHRP Report 544 – Environmentally Sensitive Channel and Bank Protection Methods. The publication is a Highway design manual, on CD, which has 54 Biotechnical (using plants and structures together) Techniques useful as alternatives to riprap.

McCullah has been in the movies also, where he has produced Dirt Time videos as training tools for subjects on Erosion and Sediment Control BMP selection and implementation. Dirt Time videos and more are available at [www.dirttime.tv](http://www.dirttime.tv)

Specific areas of expertise:

* Restoring hillslope drainage patterns – road restoration and removal, landform grading, low-volume road drainage and design
* Stream Restoration – thalweg management, cost-effective environmentally-sensitive channel and bank methods, aquatic and flood zone habitat. Alternatives to rock or minimal rock methods
* Bioengineering/ Biotechnical Soil Stabilization for Upland and Riverine ecosystems
* Best Management Practices and theory for Construction-Related sedimentation,
* Watershed Management and Restoration – erosion, sedimentation, and land use inventories.